GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:703
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
HALL MARKING SCHEME
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase awareness about the Hall Marking Scheme among the general public; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the features of the Scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) & (b): Government/Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) are organizing series of awareness programmes for jewellers and consumers all across the country for increasing awareness about the Hall Marking Scheme. Publicity Campaign has also been launched simultaneously through print and electronic media for consumer awareness. The Hall marking scheme for gold jewellery is presently voluntary in nature and is operated under BIS Act 1986. The scheme is aimed at providing third party assurance to consumers on the purity of gold for its fineness. Under the scheme, jeweller has to obtain certification mark licence from BIS to get his jewellery hallmarked from a BIS recognized Assaying & Hallmarking Centre. The Hallmarking Centres are recognized by BIS based on a laid down criteria after ensuring that the Centre has required infrastructure for Assaying and Hallmarking of gold jewellery in addition to security and safety of the same. This criterion is in line with the requirements of Convention on Control and Marking of Precious Metals (Vienna Convention 1972).